

THE BRIGHT SIDE OF LIFE.

It is a feeling common to the majority of us that we do not get quite the amount of happiness we are entitled to. Among the countless things which tend to make us more or less miserable ill health takes first place. Hannah More said that sin was generally to be attributed to biliousness. No doubt a crippled liver with the resulting impure blood, is the cause of more mental gloom than any other single thing. A chronic dyspeptic, says an eminent English physician, is always on the verge of a mental upset. And who can reckon up the fearful aggregate of pain, loss and fear arising from the many ailments and diseases which are familiar to mankind. Like a vast cloud it hangs over a multitude no one can number. You can see these people everywhere. For them life can scarcely be said to have any "bright side" at all. Hence the eagerness with which they search for relief and cure. Remedies like

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FORMER EFFORTS TO GET A CABLE FOR THE ISLANDS

A Historical Resume of the Efforts to Secure Submarine Communication Between This Group and Continent of North America.

The successful laying of the cable from San Francisco is the culmination of a long series of efforts to secure cable communication both between the islands and with the Pacific Coast which have engaged the time and thought of many of Hawaii's leading citizens.

The subject has repeatedly been before both the Hawaiian Legislature and Congress; subsidies have several times been offered by the Hawaiian Legislature and voted by the several houses of Congress; corporations have been formed for the purpose and the Trans-Pacific Cable has been agitated and discussed in almost all the capitals of the world.

Without attempting to be exhaustive in the enumeration of these efforts or exactly chronological in their order, the following are among the principal of these attempts to secure cable communication in Hawaii:

THE MORENO ACT.

On August 15th, 1876, an act was passed by Congress entitled "An Act to encourage the promotion of telegraphic communication between America and Asia."

By the terms of this act a franchise was granted to C. C. Moreno, Alvinza Hayward, Leland Stanford, Mark Hopkins, James C. Flood and twenty others, to lay and operate a cable between the United States and the Asiatic Coast the laying of the cable to begin within three years.

This appears to have been a purely speculative enterprise, initiated by Mr. Moreno, who later played a skyrocket act in Hawaiian politics. A number of the person named in the act good naturedly allowed Mr. Moreno the use of their names, while several stated that it was done without their authority. Moreno immediately attempted to dispose of the franchise to some cable company; but beyond giving him the opportunity to ever afterward refer to his business connection with the capitalists named with him, nothing was ever done. It is an odd fact however, that, in spite of the many and repeated efforts thereafter made by powerful men and companies to secure a legislative franchise the above is the only act ever passed on the subject by Congress.

LEGISLATION IN 1874.

The Hawaiian Legislature passed an act in 1874 allowing any company to construct telegraphic lines along the public roads and across public lands and waters, and allowing the Minister of the Interior to provide land for stations and other purposes of such company and to exempt their property from duties; also confirming the right to condemn private property for the purposes of the company.

THE HAWAIIAN CABLE COMPANY.

In 1882 the subject of Inter-Island cable communication was agitated, and on February 13, 1882, a petition was filed with the Minister of the Interior by Chas. R. Bishop, John H. Paty, C. O. Berger and H. A. Widemann, for the incorporation of the "Hawaiian Cable Company."

The petition stated that the purpose of the company was the "laying of ocean cables between the various islands of the group and erecting telegraphic lines thereon; to connect the various islands by telegraphic and telephonic communication and to do a general telegraph and telephone business throughout the entire kingdom."

The capital stock of the company was put at \$250,000, with the privilege of extension to \$400,000.

Special provision was made that five years after completion of the system the Government might, at its option, purchase the entire system at a price to be fixed by three disinterested persons, one to be chosen by each of the parties and one by the persons so chosen. Matters moved slowly in those days and the charter was not granted until January 1, 1884. The subscribers to the stock were Chas. R. Bishop, 500 shares and E. P. Adams, C. O. Berger, H. A. Widemann and W. W. Hall, each 200 shares.

This company employed Captain Jackson, a retired English naval officer, to make soundings between the islands, which he did in considerable detail, the deepest water found being in the Hawaii channel, which he found to be approximately 900 fathoms deep. The Legislature of 1884 reimbursed the company for this expense which amounted to \$7,480.

The expense of constructing and laying cable was found to be much more than the company had figured upon and nothing ever came of the effort.

A SUBSIDY AUTHORIZED.

In 1884 an act supplementary to that of 1874 was passed, authorizing the Minister of the Interior to contract for establishing and maintaining cable communication with San Francisco and to pay a subsidy of \$20,000 per year for fifteen years.

In 1886 the act of 1884 was further amended by adding that the subsidy could be paid not only for the cable to San Francisco but for one to be laid to "Any other port or place on the North American continent, in connection with the American telegraph system."

This amendment was for the purpose of trying to secure Canadian assistance, to lay the cable from Honolulu to Vancouver, interest in the subject having been evidenced in Canada.

THE AUDLEY COOTE ERA.

Mr. Audley Coote of Tasmania who,

for many years, had given the subject much thought and discussion, was instrumental in securing this legislation.

He continued to agitate the subject, and returned to Honolulu in 1887 securing the passage of a further act by the Hawaiian legislature, which authorized the Government to contract with him, or any others for an inter-island cable and for a cable to the North American continent.

An exclusive franchise for three years was authorized for the cable between Honolulu, beginning with January 1, 1888; with the proviso that the exclusive feature should not be good as against any foreign government.

The act also provided a subsidy of \$20,000 per year for fifteen years, if cable communication was established by January 1, 1891.

The Government was given free use of the cable up to the amount of the subsidy and rates were fixed.

The act also provided that the cable company should lay an inter-island cable for the Government at cost price.

A contract was made between the Hawaiian Government and Mr. Coote, and he made strenuous endeavors to secure assistance from Australia, Canada, England and the United States, but finally failed.

THE BARTHOLOMEW CABLE.

In 1888 the legislature, at the instance of Mr. Jas. Sherman Bartholomew, passed an act authorizing the Government to contract with him, for an exclusive right to lay and operate an inter-island cable for ten years from January 1, 1889.

A subsidy of \$8,000 was appropriated to be paid for the line to Maui, \$8,000 for the line to Hawaii and \$9,000 for the Kauai line.

Rates were fixed at ten cents per word for commercial rates; Government and press messages at five cents per word.

In pursuance with the act a contract was entered into by the Government with Mr. Bartholomew and work begun.

On November 15, 1889, a Hawaiian company was incorporated which took over Mr. Bartholomew's franchise.

The capital stock of the company was \$100,000 with privilege of extension to \$250,000.

On the 10th of August, 1895, the Hawaiian legislature repealed the above laws of 1884, 1887, 1888 and 1890, and passed a new act "to facilitate the con-

on the enterprise and nothing further was done by the company.

GENERAL HARTWELL'S EFFORTS.

General A. S. Hartwell then took the matter up individually. Largely through his efforts the Hawaiian Legislature passed a new act on November 14, 1890, "authorizing the Hawaiian Government to contract for the Construction and Maintenance of Submarine Electric Telegraph Cables."

This act provided for the construction of cables from Hawaii to "the United States or elsewhere;" the granting of exclusive rights to land in Hawaii for fifteen years from January 1, 1891; for a subsidy of \$25,000 per annum for 15 years, and various other details.

On December 18th, 1890, the Hawaiian Government entered into a contract with General Hartwell, giving him the privileges authorized by the said act, provided he would guarantee by January 1, 1892 to secure telegraphic communication with the American continent by January 1, 1894.

With this contract General Hartwell went to San Francisco, organized a California corporation consisting of William Alvord, S. T. Alexander, Charles R. Bishop, A. S. Hartwell, Hugh Craig and others, and proceeded to Washington, where he secured the submission by U. S. Senator John Mitchell of Oregon, of a bill to the Senate, on January 27, 1901, giving the

company a franchise and subsidy, under the name of the Pacific Cable Company, for the "purpose of constructing and operating submarine cables from San Francisco to the Hawaiian Islands, thence to New Zealand and Japan."

It was so late in the session however that the incorporation by special bill was abandoned and the assistance to the cable project sought through an amendment to the diplomatic appropriation bill by the addition of the following words:

"The President is hereby authorized to contract for the entire work of laying a submarine cable between the United States and the Hawaiian Islands, and to direct the prosecution of the work, whenever such contract shall be made, and as part of the cost of such cable the sum of \$500,000 is hereby subsidized."

General Hartwell offered, public spiritedly, to turn over his Hawaiian franchise to the American government if it would undertake to build the cable.

This was the first of a long series of bills introduced into Congress, and all bearing upon the subject of a Pacific cable.

This provision was voted almost unanimously by the Senate, and received strong support in the House, but coming to vote on the last day of the session failed to pass.

General Hartwell's franchise was extended later to the first day of January, 1893. The troublous days of the revolution came on at this time and nothing further was accomplished.

THE SPAULDING AND SCRYMSER EFFORTS.

On the 10th of August, 1895, the Hawaiian legislature repealed the above laws of 1884, 1887, 1888 and 1890, and passed a new act "to facilitate the con-

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THE THREE GIANTS OF TELEGRAPHY.

The cable needed to lay the line between Oahu and Molokai and from Molokai to Maui was manufactured and laid but it was of such inferior construction that it was never used. This phase of Hawaiian cable evolution is treated elsewhere in a separate article.

At the instance of Mr. Bartholomew the legislature of 1890 on September 2nd, extended the privilege heretofore granted to him to the 31st day of July, 1892. Mr. Bartholomew hoped to be able to remedy the defects in his cable but was never able to do so.

THE PACIFIC CABLE COMPANY.

In 1889, the subject of cable communication with California again came to the front in Hawaii, and a company was incorporated under the name of the Pacific Cable Company on July 3, 1889, the incorporators being: W. G. Irwin, H. P. Baldwin, H. F. Glade, P. C. Jones, H. A. Widemann, Paul Isenberg, James Campbell, G. N. Wilcox, J. T. Waterhouse, M. P. Robinson, S. N. Castle, W. O. Smith, S. M. Damon, Cecil Brown and T. H. Hoborn.

The purpose of the company was as stated in its charter to be the "construction, laying and maintaining of cables between Hawaii and California and between Hawaii and the Empire of Japan."

The capital stock was placed at \$1,000,000 with the privilege of subsequent extension to \$10,000,000 and \$750,000 worth of stock was subscribed for.

A. S. Hartwell was the leading spirit in the formation of the company and was elected its president. Estimates of the cost of the cable, and a cable ship, were procured from experts who placed the expense in the neighborhood of \$3,000,000.

An effort was then made to secure subscriptions to stock in San Francisco but without success. The excessive estimated cost and the unresponsiveness of San Francisco threw a damper

on the enterprise and nothing further was done by the company.

On the 10th of August, 1895, the Hawaiian legislature repealed the above laws of 1884, 1887, 1888 and 1890, and passed a new act "to facilitate the con-



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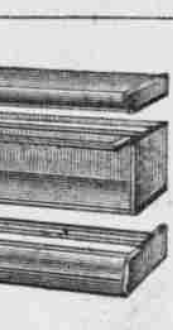
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(Continued on page 23.)